

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows.

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An AV information processing unit comprising:

an AV information accumulating device for accumulating AV (Audio Visual) information, which include any one of audio information, video information and data information associated with at least any one of the audio information and the video information;

a characteristic information accumulating device for accumulating characteristic information, which defines said accumulated AV information, for said each AV information;

an inputting device for inputting search characteristic information defining said accumulated AV information required to be searched, in accordance with a user's instruction;

an example inputting device for inputting example information to illustrate said AV information having a characteristic indicated by the search characteristic information when said inputted search characteristic information is not included in said accumulated characteristic information, so that a search operation started in accordance with the user's instruction has not been successfully completed;

an extracting device for extracting example characteristic information being said characteristic information, which defines said inputted example information, from said example information; and

an outputting device for searching said AV information associated with said extracted example characteristic information in said AV accumulating device and outputting said searched

AV information to an exterior as said AV information associated with said search characteristic information.

Claim 2 (Original): The AV information processing unit according to claim 1, further comprising:

a corresponding information accumulating device for forming a corresponding information, which associates said extracted example characteristic information to said inputted search characteristic information and storing said formed corresponding information; and

a search device for searching said example characteristic information from said characteristic information accumulating device on the basis of said accumulated corresponding information when said search characteristic information is inputted again after said corresponding information is accumulated in said corresponding information accumulating device;

wherein said outputting device searches said AV information associated with said searched example characteristic information from said AV accumulating device when said search characteristic information is inputted again and said outputting device outputs said searched AV information to an exterior as said AV information associated with said search characteristic information.

Claim 3 (Original): The AV information processing unit according to claim 1, wherein said example inputting device is used for inputting said different and plural example information

and said extracting device extracts said example characteristic information, which is common among said inputted plural example information, from each of said example information.

Claim 4 (Original): The AV information processing unit according to claim 2, wherein said example inputting device is used for inputting said different and plural example information and said extracting device extracts said example characteristic information, which is common among said inputted plural example information, from each of said example information.

Claim 5 (Original): The AV information processing unit according to claim 1, wherein said outputting device outputs said AV information associated with said extracted example characteristic information to an exterior as said AV information associated with said search characteristic information by using at least any one of a sound and an image.

Claim 6 (Original): The AV information processing unit according to claim 2, wherein said outputting device outputs said AV information associated with said extracted example characteristic information to an exterior as said AV information associated with said search characteristic information by using at least any one of a sound and an image.

Claim 7 (Original): The AV information processing unit according to claim 1, wherein said inputting device comprises a voice receiving device for receiving input of said search characteristic information by voice.

Claim 8 (Original): The AV information processing unit according to claim 2, wherein said inputting device comprises a voice receiving device for receiving input of said search characteristic information by voice.

Claim 9 (Original): The AV information processing unit according to claim 1, wherein said example inputting device comprises an example voice receiving device for receiving input of said example information by voice.

Claim 10 (Original): The AV information processing unit according to claim 2, wherein said example inputting device comprises an example voice receiving device for receiving input of said example information by voice.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): An information recording medium, in which an AV information processing program is recorded so as to be capable of being read by a computer, for making said computer function as:

an inputting device for inputting search characteristic information defining said AV information required to be searched, in accordance with a user's instruction, in AV information which are accumulated in advance and which include any one of audio information, video information and data information associated with at least any one of the audio information and the video information;

an example inputting device for inputting example information illustrating said AV information having a characteristic, which is indicated by the search characteristic information,

when said inputted search characteristic information is not included in said accumulated characteristic information, which defines said accumulated AV information and are accumulated in advance, so that a search operation started in accordance with the user's instruction has not been successfully completed;

an extracting device for extracting example characteristic information being said characteristic information, which defines said inputted example information, from said example information; and

an outputting device for searching said AV information associated with said extracted example characteristic information and outputting said searched AV information to an exterior as said AV information associated with said search characteristic information.

Claim 12 (Original): The information recording medium according to claim 11, in which said AV information processing program is recorded so as to be capable of being read by said computer, for further making said computer function as:

a corresponding information accumulating device for forming a corresponding information, which associates said extracted example characteristic information to said inputted search characteristic information and storing said formed corresponding information; and

a search device for searching said example characteristic information on the basis of said accumulated corresponding information when said search characteristic information is inputted again after said corresponding information is accumulated;

wherein said information recording medium makes said computer functioning as said outputting device function such that it searches said AV information associated with said

searched example characteristic information when said search characteristic information is inputted again and it outputs said searched AV information to an exterior as said AV information associated with said search characteristic information.

Claim 13 (Original): The information recording medium according to claim 11, in which said AV information processing program is recorded so as to be capable of being read by said computer, wherein said information recording medium uses said computer functioning as said example inputting device to input different and plural said example information and makes said computer functioning as said extracting device function such that it extracts said example characteristic information, which is common among said inputted plural example information, from each of said example information.

Claim 14 (Original): The information recording medium according to claim 12, in which said AV information processing program is recorded so as to be capable of being read by said computer, wherein said information recording medium uses said computer functioning as said example inputting device to input different and plural said example information and makes said computer functioning as said extracting device function such that it extracts said example characteristic information, which is common among said inputted plural example information, from each of said example information.

Claim 15 (Original): The information recording medium according to claim 11, in which said AV information processing program is recorded so as to be capable of being read by said

computer, wherein said information recording medium makes said computer functioning as said outputting device function such that it outputs said AV information associated with said extracted example characteristic information to an exterior as said AV information associated with said search characteristic information by using at least any one of a sound and an image.

Claim 16 (Original): The information recording medium according to claim 12, in which said AV information processing program is recorded so as to be capable of being read by said computer, wherein said information recording medium makes said computer functioning as said outputting device function such that it outputs said AV information associated with said extracted example characteristic information to an exterior as said AV information associated with said search characteristic information by using at least any one of a sound and an image.

Claim 17 (Original): The information recording medium according to claim 11, in which said AV information processing program is recorded so as to be capable of being read by said computer, wherein said information recording medium makes said computer functioning as said example inputting device function as a voice receiving device for receiving input of said search characteristic information by voice.

Claim 18 (Original): The information recording medium according to claim 12, in which said AV information processing program is recorded so as to be capable of being read by said computer, wherein said information recording medium makes said computer functioning as said

example inputting device function as a voice receiving device for receiving input of said search characteristic information by voice.

Claim 19 (Original): The information recording medium according to claim 11, in which said AV information processing program is recorded so as to be capable of being read by said computer, wherein said information recording medium makes said computer functioning as said example inputting device function as an example voice receiving device for receiving input of said example information by voice.

Claim 20 (Original): The information recording medium according to claim 12, in which said AV information processing program is recorded so as to be capable of being read by said computer, wherein said information recording medium makes said computer functioning as said example inputting device function as an example voice receiving device for receiving input of said example information by voice.